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DATE: February 10, 2003

TO: US Patent & Trademark Office - Grp Unit 1634

FROM: J. Scott Young
AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
AND EXTENSION OF TIME ATTACHED

09/605,815; FILED 6/28/00

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7

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CLIENT/MATTER: 35576/200846

REQUESTED BY: Tammy Stevens x1165

VOICE NUMBER:

Attorney's Docket No. 35576/200846PATENT**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1634****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re:	Shima, et al.	Confirmation No.:	5346
Appl. No.:	09/605,815	Group Art Unit:	1634
Filed:	June 28, 2000	Examiner:	J. Eirismann
For:	METHOD FOR REDUCING PULP TO POWDER AND PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF A CELLULOSE ETHER		

February 10, 2003

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action of October 8, 2002. No new matter or issues are raised by this Amendment. Because the present application is now in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. Alternatively, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment for purposes of narrowing the issues upon appeal.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Once amended) A method for reducing pulp to powder which comprises grinding pulp by means of a vertical roller mill to produce powdered pulp, wherein the pulp is selected from the group consisting of cotton linter pulp and wood pulp.